

SHINING TIME STATION

"The Glorious Fourth"

BY

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SCENE 1

(MAINSET)

(PAN A COLORFUL HANGING BANNER
[RED, WHITE AND BLUE] "WELCOME TO
THE INDIAN VALLEY 4TH OF JULY
CELEBRATIONS!")

ANGLE ON:

(THE BANNER IS HANGING OVER THE
WAITING ROOM. BENEATH IT, MUCH
HUSTLE AND BUSTLE -- BAND MEMBERS
MARCHING IN AND OUT, [MUSIC FADES] A
FAMILY [OF EXTRAS] WITH A PICNIC
BASKET CROSSED FOR DIRECTIONS TO
STACY AT THE INFORMATION BOOTH.
DAN, KARA, AND BECKY MARCH AS FAR
AS THE DOOR BEHIND THE EXITING
BAND, DOING EXAGGERATED HIGH MARCH-
ING STEPS AND LAUGHING...)

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 2
(MAINSET)

(SCHEMER AND SCHEEEME ARE BEHIND A TABLE IN THE ARCADE. THEY EACH WEAR TOO-SMALL UNCLE SAM OUTFITS. WE SEE THE SIGN ON THE TABLE "ABSOLUTELY SAFE FIREWORKS!" BESIDE THE ROCKETS IS A LARGE DISPLAY OF SMALL FLAGS-ON-STICKS. SCHEMER BEGINS TO SHOUT, CIRCUS-BARKER STYLE--SCHEME GAZES AT HIM IN IDOL-WORSHIPING AWE)

SCHEMER:

Hey, getcha fireworks!
Getcha Fourth of July
fireworks here! Guaranteed
absolutely safe! Get 'em
while they're hot!

(BILLY APPROACHES TABLE)

SCHEEMER:

Ah, Mr. Two-Feathers.
What can I sell you? A bomb
perhaps? Something in a rocket?

BILLY:

No thanks , Schemer.
I was thinking about a
flag...for one of the
kids.

SCHEMER:

Nephew Sam, show the man
a flag. Something in red
white and blue.

SCHEEEME:

Sure thing, Uncle
Schemer... I mean Uncle
Sam.

(SCHEEEME HANDS BILLY A FLAG)

They're on sale today.
Ten cents each, two for a
quarter.

SCENE 2 (CONT'D)

(BILLY TAKES A FLAG, EXAMINES IT)

BILLY:

Hold on here...

(HE CONCENTRATES ON THE FLAG)

Schemer, this flag has only 48 stars. The flag is supposed to have 50 stars, one for each state.

SCHEMER:

Really? Well, I'll be... They didn't say anything about that at the highly reputable Surplus Garbage outlet where I bought them...

(BILLY HANDS BACK THE FLAG TO SCHEMER)

BILLY:

I'll keep my money, and you can keep the flag. Now what's all this? "Absolutely Safe Fireworks"? What's that mean?

SCHEMER:

Ah. Yes. Well. I'm glad you asked me that, Billy.

(SCHEMER NOTICES THAT SCHEEME IS LISTENING, ALL EARS)

Nephew Sam? Why don't you go away somewhere and make money? See you later. Bye now...

(SCHEEME LEAVES. SCHEMER LEANS IN AND EXPLAINS THINGS TO BILLY -- VERY CONFIDENTIAL)

SCENE 2 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

These fire works are
absolutely safe,
because they don't work.
See?

(SCHEMER POPS THE NOSE-CONE TOP OFF
A ROCKET, TURNS IT UPSIDE DOWN,
SHAKES IT. IT'S EMPTY)

Nothing. Nada. Zilch.

(BILLY IS PICKING UP VARIOUS
ROCKETS WITH BOTH HAND AND
"WEIGHING" THEM. ONE HE HOLDS
SEEMS HEAVIER THAN THE OTHER)

BILLY:

Where'd you get these
things, Schemer?

SCHEMER:

At the cut rate discount
Surplus Garbage outlet
where I got the flags. Why?

BILLY:

(LAUGHS)

Because I think for once
you got cheated -- some
of these are loaded.
Like this one...

(BILLY FLIPS THE ROCKET HIGH IN THE
AIR IN SCHEMER'S DIRECTION. A LOOK
OF TOTAL TERROR CROSSES SCHEMER'S
FACE. HE LUNGES AND DIVES TO CATCH
THE "LOADED" ROCKET)

BILLY:

I wouldn't get near any lit
matches if I were you,
Schemer.

(SCHEMER CHANGES SIGN TO READ
"ABSOLUTELY SAFE--EXCEPT WHEN THEY
BLOW UP")

SCENE 2 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

(READING TO HIMSELF AS HE WRITES)

Absolutely safe fire
works...Except when they
blow up!

SCENE 3

(MAINSET)

(MAYOR FLOPDINGER, ALL DRESSED UP
IN A MORNING SUIT, BUSTLES IN,
LOOKING AT HIS POCKET WATCH,
FRANTIC.)

MAYOR:

Excuse me. Pardon me.
Wha...?

(HE BUMPS IN TO A LIFE-SIZED CUT
OUT OF SCHEMER AS UNCLE SAM.
HE SEES THAT BESIDE THE CUT OUT IS
SCHEEME WITH A POLAROID CAMERA ON A
STRAP AROUND HIS NECK)

SCHEEME:

Hi, Mayor Flopdinger!
Wanna have your picture
taken with Uncle Sam?
Only a quarter for one
two for a dollar...

MAYOR:

Thank you, no thank you.
No time, you understand.
Busy day for those of us
in the public eye.
Fourth of July, you
know...

(THE MAYOR HEADS IN THE DIRECTION
OF THE ARCADE, SCHEEME FOLLOWING
WITH THE CUT-OUT)

SCHEEME:

Just one picture, Your Honor?
Very patriotic. Great
for the image. It'll
only take a second...

(MAYOR STOPS. THINKS)

MAYOR:

Hmm. Are you old enough
to vote?

SCENE 3 (CONT'D)

SCHEEME:

No, sir.

(MAYOR BUSTLES OFF, SCHEEME TAGGING BEHIND)

MAYOR:

No time now, no time.
See me later... in a
couple of years...When you
can vote.

(TOGETHER THEY ARRIVE AT THE:)

SCENE 4
(MAINSET)

(STACY AT THE INFO BOOTH IS FINISHED GIVING DIRECTIONS TO A FAMILY OF EXTRAS, AND THEY ARE LEAVING)

STACY:

You can't miss it. Right across the road from the bandshell. Enjoy your picnic!

MAYOR: (O.S.)

Yoo-hoo! Miss Jones!
Miss Jones!

(BREATHLESS, THE MAYOR APPROACHES STACY IN THE BOOTH)

STACY:

Hi, Mayor Flopdinger!
Are you enjoying the
Fourth Of July?

MAYOR:

Well, that's a matter of opinion, Miss Jones. You don't have to give a speech tonight.

STACY:

I think it would be easy to give a speech about the Fourth Of July.

MAYOR:

You do?

SCENE 4 (CONT'D)

STACY:

Sure. You can talk about the Revolution, or the Bill Of Rights. Remind people about Democracy. You know..."Government of the people, by the people and for the people..."

MAYOR:

Say, Miss Jones, that's good. That's excellent! Do you mind if I use it? Have you got a pencil? Something to write on? The back of an envelope is fine. How did it go again? May I quote you?

(STACY FINDS PAPER AND PENCIL,
HANDS THEM TO THE MAYOR)

STACY:

Well, actually, your honor, it's President Lincoln's.

MAYOR:

(IMPRESSED)

Really? This very pencil belonged to President Lincoln! Think of that! And it looks brand new!

STACY:

No, sir, I meant the words. "By the people, for the people and of the people."

SCENE 4 (CONT'D)

MAYOR:

Miss Jones, keep the pencil, It must be very valuable. Miss Jones, I've just had an idea I've been wanting to have since I walked in here. As the proud possessor of a pencil once owned by President Lincoln, you are the one who should give the patriotic speech tonight!

STACY:

But Your Honor, sir, I...
I can't... that is...

(THE MAYOR BEGINS TO RETREAT,
SMILING)

MAYOR:

No need to thank me.
Consider it done. Now I
must hurry off and
compose a suitable
introduction for you!
Until this evening, then.

(SFX: TRAIN ARRIVING)

(THE MAYOR CHECKS HIS POCKET WATCH)

Ah! That must be the
Fourth of July Special
Express arriving. Right
on time!

STACY:

Oh, dear.

(AS THE MAYOR EXITS, A MOB OF
TRAVELERS ENTER)

Wait, wait, Mayor
Flopding...

SCENE 4 (CONT'D)

(STACY HEAVES A SIGN AND TAKES UP A
PENCIL)

STACY:

Now let's see. What can
I say about the Fourth Of
July?

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 5
(INT.JUKEBOX)

TITO:

Hey, amigos! A happy
Fourth of July to all
of you!

GRACE:

Right back at you, Tito,
baby.

DIDI:

My favorite days have
always been holidays.

REX:

The Fourth of July brings
a tear to mah eye.

TEX:

Why Rex -- you crazy
rhymin' cowboy, you!

(WAILS)

The Fourth of
Juuuly/Brings a tear to
mah eeeye...

REX:

Pipe down, Tex.

DIDI:

Tito -- what exactly does
"Independence " mean to
you?

TITO:

Let me think. I guess it
means freedom, you know.
Like being my own boss --
pulling my own strings, playing
my own tunes my own way.

SCENE 5 (CONT'D)

GRACE:

Pull your own strings!
Now that is something I
would love to see!

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 6
(MAINSET)

(STACY HAS LEFT. KARA AND BECKY ARE PRACTICING THEIR RACING TECHNIQUE)

KARA:

Okay now, left!

(THEY STUMBLE)

Whoops. I meant my left,
your right. Okay?
Right!

(THEY STUMBLE)

BECKY:

Whose right? My right?

(DAN ENTERS, CARRYING A "HUMANE" TRAP -- WITH A RABBIT IN IT. HE CROSSES TO THE COUNTER AND SETS IT DOWN. THE GIRLS HOP OVER.

BECKY:

Hi, Dan. We're practicing
for the three legged
race.

(THEY REACH THE COUNTER)

KARA:

Oh, wow. A rabbit.

BECKY:

Whose is it? Is it
yours?

DAN:

It's Billy's, I guess. I
mean, it's his trap. I
helped him set it behind
the station.

SCENE 6 (CONT'D)

KARA:

I wonder what he'll
do with it?

(MR. C. APPEARS ON THE COUNTER
BESIDE THE CAGE)

MR. C:

Knowing Billy, he'll let
it go. Give it it's
freedom. It's a good day
for freedom.

KARA, BECKY, DAN:

(AD LIB)

Hi, Mr. Conductor (ETC.).

MR. C:

Hi kids. Happy Fourth!

DAN:

Where have you been, Mr.
Conductor?

BECKY:

On the Island of Sodor?

MR. C:

Well, if you must know,
I've been in New York,
visiting a lady friend.
A beautiful French lady
friend, in fact.

KARA:

(GIGGLING)

Really? From France?

BECKY:

What's her name, Mr.
Conductor?

SCENE 6 (CONT'D)

MR. C:

The Statue of Liberty,
of course. I drop in on
her every Fourth of July
to keep her company.

(ANGLE ON:)

(SCHEEME CREEPING OUT OF THE
ARCADE, CAMERA AT THE READY)

DAN: (OS)

But she's not French!

KARA: (OS)

She is so. The French
people gave her to
America. We learned that
in school.

DAN: (OS)

We did? Oh, yeah, I
remember now.

SCHEEME:

(SHOUTS)

Say cheese!

(HE TAKES A PICTURE, FLASHBULB
FLASHING. INSTANTLY, IN A CLOUD OF
SPARKLING DUST, MR. C. VANISHES)

KARA:

Scheeme!

DAN:

Why do you do stuff like
that?

BECKY:

You scared the rabbit!

SCENE 6 (CONT'D)

(DAN PICKS UP THE CAGE)

DAN:

C'mon,. Let's take
it to Billy.

(THEY EXIT. SCHEEME SHOUTS AFTER
THEM...)

SCHEEME:

Hey! Don't you wanna
see your picture? Just
25 cents each -- four for
a dollar...

(SCHEEME PULLS THE PICTURE OUT OF
THE CAMERA, LOOKS AT IT)

Boy, look at those faces!
Looks like four scared
rabbits. Hey... what's
that?

(CU: THE PICTURE IN HIS HAND --
BESIDE THE RABBIT CAGE, A CLOUD OF
GOLD DUST)

(CU: SCHEEME)

SCHEEME:

Gold dust!

(HE RUNS TO THE COUNTER, SEARCHING
FRANTICALLY, RUNNING HIS FINGERS
OVER IT)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 7
(WORKSHOP)

(THE RABBIT AND CAGE ARE ON BILLY'S DESK. DAN, BECKY, AND KARA ARE GATHERED AROUND. BILLY CHUCKLES AT THE ANIMAL)

BILLY:

So this is the fellow who's been
eating all my vegetables.
You're a hungry one,
aren't you, little neph-
ew?

DAN:

What are you going to do
with him, Billy?

BECKY:

Can we keep him as a pet?

BILLY:

Oh, I don't think little nephew here would be happy as a pet. I'll take him with me when I leave and let him go out in the woods.

KARA:

How come you call him
"Nephew?"

SCENE 7 (CONT'D)

BILLY:

Well, the people known as the Winnebago say that we humans are uncles and aunts of this particular animal. In their stories, he is an important animal-spirit -- to them he 's a brave hero -- and a very clever trickster.

The Winnebago even have a story to explain why his tail is so short. Want to hear it?

KIDS:

Sure. Yeah. Tell us.

(BILLY LOOKS AT THIS WATCH, PUTS IT AWAY, SITS)

SCENE 7 (CONT'D)

BILLY (CONT'D)

BILLY:

They say that once upon a time, a rabbit came upon a path in the forest, and he decided to catch whoever had made that path. So he made a trap of thistles. But whatever it was who had walked along that path broke out of the trap. So, the rabbit made another trap, of bark and string. But whoever walked the path escaped that trap, too. Then he asked his Grandmother for a rope of her braided hair and made another trap. The next morning he heard someone crying "Rabbit, come and untie me!" In the trap he saw something shining -- and he realized he had captured the Sun! Of course, he had to cut it loose, and while he was doing that, his tail got scorched. See what a little tail the rabbit still has?

(LAUGHING, BILLY LIFTS THE RABBIT OUT OF THE CAGE, AND TAKES IT WITH HIM AS HE HEADS OUT)

Come with me, Nephew.
They say you freed the sun --
now I'll free you.

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 8
(MAINSET)

(AT THE TICKET BOOTH, STACY IS TRYING TO WRITE HER SPEECH WITH SOME UN-ASKED HELP FROM SCHEMER)

SCHEMER:

Why is July 4th about freedom?
I'll tell you. July 4th
is about America. Ameri-
ca is a country. Out in the
country, there's fresh
air. And fresh air is
free!

(PAUSES)

Unfortunately. If only
people could find a way
to charge people for
fresh air...

SCHEEME:

Pssst! Pssst!

STACY:

That's all you have to say
about the Fourth Of July?

SCHEMER:

Well, there's fireworks.
Does that help your
speech?

STACY:

Not really, Schemer.
Thanks anyways.

SCHEMER:

Any time, Miss Jones.

(SCHEMER CROSSES TO SCHEEME IN THE ARCADE)

SCENE 9
(ARCADE)

SCHEMER:

What is it, blight of my life?

SCHEEME:

(SCHEEME OPENS A SMALL ENVELOPE)

Look. Look at this, Uncle Schemer. It's gold!

SCHEMER:

Oh, sure. You've discovered gold right here in -- Great Gatsby! It is gold!

SCHEEME:

Shhh! I found a little pile of it, right over there. And that means...

SCHEMER:

...There must be a big pile of it around here somewhere!

SCHEEME:

Exacta-mundo!

SCHEMER:

But how...

(SCHEMER PAUSES. THINKS. GETS IT.
SNAPS FINGERS. LOOKS AROUND, AFRAID SOMEONE HAS
HEARD HIM SNAP FINGERS. WHISPERS)

Tonight -- when everyone's at the park listening to the speeches and watching the fireworks... we'll turn this place upside-down. We're gonna be rich!
Shhh!

SCENE 9 (CONT'D)

(SCHEMER VERY NEARLY SHOUTS THE WORD "RICH", CATCHES AND SHUSHES HIMSELF. HE AND SCHEEME CROSS, WITH FORCED CASUALNESS, TO EXIT. THEY PASS THE MAYOR)

SCENE 10
(MAINSET)

MAYOR:

(AS USUAL, HE'S CHECKING HIS WATCH)

You will be there, won't you Miss Jones? As they say , 99% of politics is just showing up.

(CHUCKLE, CHUCKLE)

(STACY, CARRYING HER PAPERS,
CROSSES TO THE MAYOR)

STACY:

I'm not a politician, your Honor, but I'll be there. I'm still working on the speech. I hope they like it.

MAYOR:

Of course they will. you're a born orator... Now, don't forget that there's an election coming up. You might throw in some mention about the hot air generator I had built... Yes, I've heard them call me "Mr. Hot Air" Well, see you on the podium.

(HE EXITS)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 11

(STATION CLOCK, HANDS TURNING)

SCENE 12
(MAINSET)

(IT'S QUITE DARK. AT THE COUNTER,
STACY IS STILL SCRIBBLING AWAY ON
HER SPEECH ON THE BACK OF AN
ENVELOPE. MR. C. APPEARS BESIDE
HER PAPERS)

MR. C:

Don't work in the dark,
Stacy. You'll tire
your eyes.

(CONCENTRATING, NOT LOOKING UP,
STACY REACHES AND SWITCHES ON A
LAMP)

STACY:

Thanks.

(PAUSES)

Oh, hi, Mr. Conductor!
When did it get so dark outside?

MR. CONDUCTOR:

When the rainclouds came.

STACY:

Oh no, I hope it doesn't
rain on the fireworks.

KARA & BECKY (OS):

We won! Stacy! We won!

(KARA, BECKY AND DAN ENTER HAPPILY)

KARA:

We won the three-legged
race!

STACY:

That's great.

SCENE 12 (CONT'D)

MR. C:

Dan, What happened to the rabbit?

DAN:

He's fine, I guess. Billy took him out in the woods somewhere and let him go.

MR. C:

Good for Billy. We had an escape not long ago on the Island of Sodor.

STACY:

You mean, someone escaped from the Island of Sodor?

MR. C:

No, no, no. Listen... An engine escaped to the Island of Sodor.

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 13

(TTE: "ESCAPE")

SCENE 14

(MAINSET/ARCADE)

(STACY AND THE KIDS ARE GATHERED AROUND MR. C. IT HAS GROWN EVEN DARKER. THROUGH THE WINDOWS WE CAN NOW SEE LIGHTNING FLASHES)

DAN:

Wow. What a close call
for Oliver!

BECKY:

That was a scary story,
Mr. Conductor.

KARA:

'Specially with all that
lightning outside!
Brrr!

(ANGLE ON:BILLY STANDING ACROSS THE ROOM, NEWLY RETURNED)

BILLY:

C'mon everybody, unless
you want to miss the
fireworks...

(A FLASH OF LIGHTNING)

Don't worry about that.
It's only a summer storm.
Let's go. Stacy -- don't
forget your speech...

(TOGETHER THEY EXIT. MR. C. WAVES GOODBYE. A BEAT. SCHEEMER AND SCHEEMEE TIP TOE IN FROM THE ARCADE AREA. THEY WEAR COVERALLS -- AND MINER'S HATS WITH LIGHTS ON THEM -- PRACTICALLY THE ONLY LIGHT IN THE STATION IS PROVIDED BY THEIR ERRATIC, SWEEPING BEAMS. THEY ALSO HAVE AN INDUSTRIAL VACUUM CLEANER, WITH A HOSE AND NOZZLE. THEY "SHUSH" EACH OTHER CONSTANTLY)

SCENE 14 (CONT'D)

MR. C:

I wonder what they're
up to?

(MR. C. DISAPPEARS FROM THE COUNTER
IN A SPRINKLE OF GOLD DUST... AND
REAPPEARS IN A SIMILAR GLITTERING
CLOUD BEHIND THEM)

SCENE 15

(ARCADE/MAINSET)

(JUST AS MR. C APPEARS, WE HEAR THE SUDDEN ROAR OF THE VACUUM -- AND SEE THAT HE IS RIGHT BESIDE THE NOZZLE. IT INSTANTLY SUCKS UP HIS GOLD DUST. HE JUMPS BEHIND SOMETHING [THE JUKEBOX?] TO HIDE)

SCHEEME: (OS)

Uncle Schemer! Over here, quick! I found some! I found some gold dust!

MR. C:

(WHISPERS)

Oh no! -- I've lost my magic dust. Now I can't disappear. This is serious!

(MR. C. RUNS AWAY ALONG THE TOP OF A BENCH, OUT OF FRAME)

(THE ROAR OF THE VACUUM STOPS ABRUPTLY)

(CUT TO:)

(CU: SCHEMER AND SCHEEME WHISPERING, THEIR FACE WEIRDLY LIT UP BY EACH OTHER'S HEAD LAMPS...)

SCHEMER:

You found some gold?

SCHEEME?

I think so. I vacuumed it up.

(A SOUND: SOMETHING SMALL KNOCKED OVER AND FALLING)

SCHEMER:

What was that?

SCENE 15 (CONT'D)

SCHEEME:

What?

(SOUND: A PATTER OF TINY FOOTSTEPS
RUNNING AWAY)

SCHEMER:

Listen! There's someone
in here with us.
Someone trying to steal
our gold! We'll just see
about that...

(CHASE SEQUENCE)

(AROUND THE ARCADE, SCHEMER'S
HEADLAMP SWEEPS... MR. C. FLATTENS
HIMSELF AGAINST THE WALL, DUCKS AND
SCURRIES)

SCHEMER (VO):

C'mon. I gotcha now.
come to poppa. What are
you, a man or a mouse. I
hope you're a mouse...
There you are!

(BRIEFLY CAUGHT IN THE LIGHT, MR.
C. LEAPS... ONTO THE TABLE WITH
SCHEMER'S ROCKETS ON DISPLAY.
DESPERATE, HE STRADDLES A ROCKET,
LIGHTS A MATCH TO ITS FUSE... AND
IN A MIGHTY ROAR AND TRAIL OF
SPARKS THE ROCKET, WITH MR. C. ON
BOARD, FLIES PAST THE STARTLED
SCHEMER AND ACROSS THE STATION IN
THE DIRECTION OF BILLY'S WORKSHOP)

SCHEMER:

Heads up! Somebody is
shooting off my rockets!

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 16
(INT. JUKEBOX)

(THE PUPPETS ARE STARING UP)

DIDI:

What was that?

GRACE:

That was loud.

TEX:

Sounded worser 'n Rex's
old pick-up truck back
firin'!

TITO:

It was a nickels worth of
fireworks! And that's
our cue! Hit it! One two
three...

(INTO PUPPET SONG: "YANKEE
DOODLE")

SCENE 17 (CONT'D)

PUPPET SONG: "YANKEE DOODLE"

SCENE 18
(ARCADE)

(SCHEEME SQUATS ON THE FLOOR,
TRYING TO OPEN THE VACUUM CLEANER)

SCHEEME:

(MUTTERING TO HIMSELF)

Gold. There's a zillion
dollars worth of gold in
here, and I can't get
it open. C'mon.
C'mon!

(WITH A MIGHTY EFFORT, HE POPS IT
OPEN... AND GOLD DUST FLIES OUT AND
UP AND ALL OVER HIM. HE INSTANTLY
DISAPPEARS, BECOMING JUST A FLOAT-
ING MINER'S HELMET, SUNGLASSES AND A
PAIR OF GLOVES. OF COURSE, HE DOESN'T
KNOW THIS. HE GETS UP AND GOES IN
SEARCH OF HIS UNCLE.

Uncle Schemer, I'm rich!
I mean, we're rich.
Uncle Schemer? Where are
you?

(CUT TO:)

SCENE 19
(WORKSHOP)

(THE BURNT-OUT ROCKET AND MR. C. ARE ON TOP OF BILLY'S DESK AT THE EMPTY RABBIT TRAP. MR. C. IS BACKING AWAY, LOOKING FRANTICALLY FOR A MEANS OF ESCAPE, AS SCHEMER'S LIGHT SWEEPS THE SURFACE)

SCHEMER (VO):

Okay, Mister Rocket-stealer. I know you're not a ghost. You're not a ghost! You're a mouse. So, c'mon out with your paws up...

(MR. C. BACKS INTO THE TRAP, WHICH SNAPS LOUDLY SHUT)

SCHEMER (VO):

Ah-ha! Trapped like a mouse in a trap. In fact, you are a mouse in a trap. I've gotcha now...

(ANGLE ON:SCHEMER BENDING OVER, PICKING UP THE TRAP)

SCHEEME (OS):

What'cha doin', Uncle Schemer?

(SCHEMER TURNS TO THE VOICE IN THE DOORWAY)

(SCHEMER'S POV:)

(A FLOATING HAT, SUNGLASSES AND GLOVES IN THE DOORWAY)

(SCHEMER SCREAMS, DROPS THE TRAP, WHICH SWINGS OPEN)

(INTERCUT)

(MR. C. CLAMBERING OUT OF THE OPEN TRAP)

(TERRIFIED, SCHEMER RUNS PAST THE INVISIBLE SCHEEME, OUT ONTO THE:)

SCENE 20
(MAINSET)

(WE HEAR THUNDER AND SEE LIGHTNING FLASHES THROUGH THE WINDOWS. VERY GOTHIC. SCHEMER, YELLING AND WHIMPERING, RUNS AROUND THE STATION AWAY FROM THE INVISIBLE MAN WHO FOLLOWS HIM. EVENTUALLY, HE BUMPS INTO THE SCARIEST SIGHT OF ALL, THE LIFE-SIZED CARDBOARD CUT-OUT OF HIMSELF. WITH A FINAL HOWL, HE DASHES OUT OF THE STATION... SCHEEME BEHIND HIM ALL THE WAY...)

SCHEEME:

(AD LIB)

Uncle Schemer, we're rich. Come back. What's wrong? We're rich.
Uncle Schemer...

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 21
(ARCADE)

(ON THE FLOOR BESIDE THE OPEN VACUUM CLEANER, MR. C. GATHERS UP HIS MAGIC DUST. HE SMILES, AND TALKS TO HIMSELF)

MR. C:

Now that's a funny thing
about freedom -- you
hardly know it's there
until it's gone, I must
remember to take good
care of it.

(HE SPRINKLES HIMSELF AND VANISHES)

(DISSOLVE TO:)

SCENE 22
(MAINSET)

(STACY, BILLY, KARA, BECKY, DAN AND THE MAYOR ENTER, SHAKING OUT UMBRELLAS...)

KARA:

Stacy, you were great.

STACY:

Thank you, Kara.

MAYOR:

I second that, Miss Jones. It was a wonderful speech. Moving, touching, and so forth. No, I mean it, it was. And if it hadn't started raining all over the crowd, I'm sure everybody else would have stayed and enjoyed it, too.

BECKY:

Not only that. The rain wrecked the fire works, too.

(THEY ARE INTERRUPTED BY SCHEMER AND SCHEEME WHO NOW REENTER. SOAKING WET. SCHEEME HAS RETURNED TO NORMAL -- THOUGH THEY BOTH STILL WEAR THEIR COVERALLS AND MINERS HATS)

SCHEMER:

...the idea of scaring your poor old uncle half to death like that!

SCHEEME:

Gee, I'm sorry, Uncle Schemer,
I didn't mean to...

BILLY:

What are you two all dressed up for?

SCENE 22 (CONT'D)

SCHEMER:

What? This? Dressed like this? Why? Uhm... Because while you were out having fun, Scheeme and I were here at the station, working.

BILLY:

Working at what?

SCHEEME:

(THINKING FAST)

Capturing wild animals.
This place is full of..
wild animals that should
be put in cages.

SCHEMER:

And ghosts, too.

BECKY:

Stacy -- how were you going to end your July Fourth speech, anyway?

SCENE 22 (CONT'D)

STACY:

Well, I'd been thinking about Abraham Lincoln today, and I thought I'd say something he once said. To me, this is what Independence Day is all about. He said: "We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men and of course that means women, too, are created equal.

(PAN THE GROUP, AS STACY RECITES. THE OTHERS SAY THE WORDS ALONG WITH HER -- THE MAYOR WITH HIS HAND ON HIS HEART. AT THE CONCLUSION, EVERYONE APPLAUDS.)

That they are endowed by their creator with certain alienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

(CUT TO:)

(MR. C, OUT OF SIGHT OF THE OTHERS, GESTURES GRANDLY)

(CUT TO:)

(OUTSIDE THE WINDOWS, BOOMS AND COLORED FLASHES BEGIN. EVERYONE -- INCLUDING THE ASTONISHED SCHEMER -- RUSHES OVER AND STARES UP AT THE SKY FILLED WITH FIREWORKS... OOH-HING AND AAAHING AND CLAPPING...)

(THE MARCHING MUSIC WE HEARD AT THE TOP OF THE SHOW SWELLS)

(FADE TO BLACK)